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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1949

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

E.J. O'KEEFFE. B.A., M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.) D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector

A.T. SELVEY, Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and
Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board.

The Medical Officer of Health also holds the appointments of
Medical Officer of Health to Wareham Borough Council, Swanage
Urban District Council and Assistant Medical Officer to Dorset
County Council.



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REPORT ON THE HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

Public Health Office,
12a. Institute Road,
Swanago.

July, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Wareham & Purbeck Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Miss Graves and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Wareham & Purbeck Rural District for the year 1949. The Report is set out in sections in the following order:-

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The health of the district throughout the year was satisfactory and there was no outbreak of serious infectious disease. The incidence of infectious disease remained within normal limits and calls for no special comment.

Adequate sanitary inspection, housing inspection, supervision of food and water supplies have not been possible with one Sanitary Inspector for the District. Your present Sanitary Inspector is engaged as many as five evenings a week, throughout most of the year, on meat inspection at the Ministry of Food slaughterhouse at Upton. The greater part of his normal working time is taken up with office work and dealing with complaints as they arise.

In a rural district such as this much time is, of necessity, spent in travelling and little time is available for routine inspections and supervision. Since your former Sanitary Inspector retired and the additional Sanitary Inspector promoted to his position, no new appointment has been made. In my opinion an additional Sanitary Inspector is essential for the adequate inspection and supervision required in the district.

Progress in the erection of new houses by the Council has been as satisfactory as can be expected under present circumstances, but when the numbers on the waiting list for houses and the number of houses in the district requiring demolition are considered, one wishes that circumstances may allow for more rapid progress.

The preliminary tedious stages in acquiring a suitable source of water supply for the Council's scheme for those parts of the district not already supplied by statutory water undertakings, were nearing completion at the end of the year. When the source is finally approved and acquired more rapid progress may be expected.

No new work on sewerage schemes for villages was undertaken during the year and it is unfortunate that the scheme for a sewerage system for the village of Corfe Castle has been postponed indefinitely, as this village is one in which the need is greatest.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration and the Sanitary Inspector and other Officers of the Council for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Miss Graves and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

E. W. Keefe

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

General Statistics

1. Area of the Rural District.

95,954 Acres.

2. Population.

At Census 1931	...	...	...	16,116
As estimated by Registrar-General				
At mid 1948	...			16,250
At mid 1949 Civilians..				16,280
Total	...			19,500

3. Total number of inhabited houses according to the rate book:

At end of 1948	...	...	...	4,668
At end of 1949	...	...	...	4,794

4. Rateable value at 1st April, 1949 £94,926

5. Sum represented by penny rate £ 379. 3. 7

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1949

	Total	Male	Female
<u>Live Births</u>			
Total registered	344	178	166
Legitimate	329	170	159
Illegitimate	15	8	7
<u>Still births</u>			
Total registered	3	2	1
Legitimate	3	2	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Deaths</u>			
Total registered	183	89	94
<u>Maternal Mortality</u>			
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	-	-	-
Other maternal causes	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-
<u>Deaths from Special Causes</u>			
Cancer	26	13	13
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1	1	-
<u>Infant Mortality</u>			
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</u>			
Total registered	9	6	3
Legitimate	6	5	1
Illegitimate	3	1	2

Birth, Death, Infant and Maternal Mortality Rates
for the Year 1949

Area Comparability Factor for Death Rates 0.93

	Wareham & Purbock	England & Wales
Birth Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:		
Live births	21. 1	16. 7
Still births	0.18	0.39
Death Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:		
All causes	10. 4	11. 7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.01
Diphthoria	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.45	0.45
Influenza	0.11	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	0.39	0.51
Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 Live Births		
All causes under 1 year of age	26.	32.
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	2. 9	3. 0
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births:		
Abortion with sepsis	-	0.11
Abortion without sepsis	-	0.05
Puorperal infections	-	0.11
Other maternal causes	-	0.71

Causes of Deaths Year 1949

No. in Registrar- General's Abridged List	Cause	Male	Female	Total
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-	-
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-
3	Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
5	Diphtheria	-	-	-
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	1	7
7	Other forms of tuberculosis	-	1	1
8	Syphilitic Diseases	-	-	-
9	Influenza	-	2	2
10	Measles	-	-	-
11	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis-	-	-	-
12	Acute infectious Encephalitis	-	-	-
13	(M) Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	1	-	1
	(F) Cancer of Uterus	-	1	1
14	Cancer of stomach or Duodenum	1	-	1
15	Cancer of Breast	-	4	4
16	Cancer of all other sites	11	8	19
17	Diabetes	1	2	3
18	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	6	14	20
19	Heart Diseases	33	33	66
20	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	-	-	-
21	Bronchitis	5	6	11
22	Pneumonia	3	4	7
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	1	3	4
24	Ulcer of the Stomach or Duodenum	1	-	1
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	-	1
26	Appendicitis	-	1	1
27	Other Digestive Diseases	1	2	3
28	Nephritis	2	1	3
29	Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	-	-	-
30	Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-
31	Premature Birth	1	1	2
32	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Diseases	2	-	2
33	Suicide	2	-	2
34	Road Traffic Accident	1	-	1
35	Other Violent Causes	1	1	2
36	All Other Causes	9	9	18
Total		89	94	183

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR
THE AREA

Hospitals

The general medical, surgical and specialist hospital service is provided for the district by the hospitals under the control of the Bournemouth and East Dorset Group Hospital Management Committee, and the West Dorset Group Hospital Management Committee.

Public Health Laboratory Service

Facilities are available to the District Council for the examination of all specimens of public health importance, including water and milk samples, free of charge, at the County Laboratory, Glyde Path Road, Dorchester. Copies of reports on all samples submitted which have a bearing on public health, are forwarded to the District Medical Officer by the County Bacteriologist and Pathologist.

Other Health Services

The County Council - as the local health authority - are responsible for the administration of the following services in the area:-

Ambulance Service
Domiciliary Midwifery
Care of Mothers and Young Children
Health Visiting
Home Nursing
Care and After Care
Domestic Help Services
Vaccination: Immunisation and Prevention of Illness.

Child Welfare Centres

Child Welfare Centres are provided by the County Council in the district as follows:-

<u>Bere Regis</u>	- Child Welfare Centre, Women's Institute Hut, Bere Regis.	Doctor attends second Friday of each month from 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
<u>Wool</u>	- Child Welfare Centre, The Reading Room, Wool.	Doctor attends first and third Tuesdays of each month from 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Immunisation of children against diphtheria is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centres. Other parts of the Rural District are served by Infant Welfare Centres at Poole, Wareham and Swanage.

Persons in need of Care and Attention

Difficulty is experienced in finding institutional accommodation for aged and infirm persons suffering from chronic disease who are in need of care and attention; this is likely to make action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948, impossible.

No action was taken by the Council under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

There has been no change in the water supplies in the district during the year, and the following is part of the general description of supplies given in the report for the preceding year.

The table in page 8 shows the percentage of houses in the parishes, and in the district as a whole, served by various types of water supply.

Only those areas which are served by the public water supplies and the Affpuddle and Lulworth Castle Estate supplies can be regarded as having a reasonably adequate water supply for all modern requirements.

The smaller village piped supplies are variable in quality and quantity, difficult to supervise and cannot be regarded as wholly satisfactory.

The majority of the old wells in the district are poorly constructed and yield water of doubtful quality. Approximately 33% of samples taken from wells in the district during the year were classed as unsatisfactory; 19% as suspicious; 17% as satisfactory and 31% as highly satisfactory.

An adequate piped supply of water to those areas not now served by a public supply is urgently needed.

Public Piped Supplies

The following areas are supplied by public piped supplies:-

Upton, Lytchett Minster, Organford, Sandford and Sandford Road, are supplied from the Poole Corporation Supply.

Bestwall and a few houses in the Worgret area, are supplied from the Wareham Borough supply.

Corfe Castle and Langton Matravers, are supplied from the Swanage Urban District Supply.

West Lulworth, East Lulworth and Coombe Keynes, are supplied by the Lulworth Castle Estate supply, which is derived from a spring issuing from the chalk. The water which is chlorinated has consistently given highly satisfactory results on bacteriological examination. The position of the spring is far from ideal, being close to houses and near the road leading to the Cove. This water is a statutory undertaking.

The Parish of Lytchett Minster is in the Borough of Poole statutory area of supply; Corfe Castle and Langton Matravers are in the Urban District of Swanage statutory area of supply.

In the remaining areas mentioned above water is distributed by the District Council from bulk supplies taken from the water undertakings.

Village Piped Supplies - privately owned.

The following villages have piped supplies:-

Briantspuddle, Affpuddle and a part of Bore Rogis - from the Bladen Estate supply. The water is derived from a deep bore in the chalk at Briantspuddle and is untreated. Samples taken for bacteriological examination have given highly satisfactory results.

Chaldon Herring - has a standpipe supply from Lulworth Castle Estate. The water, bacteriologically, is highly satisfactory.

Church Knowle - is supplied from a bore in the greensand at the foot of the Purbeck Hills. Samples from the supply have given satisfactory results; but the quantity of water available is very limited.

Kingston, Kimmeridge, Wool and Winfrith villages have small piped gravity supplies from surface springs. The water is untreated. The results of bacteriological examination of samples taken from these small supplies are variable, in the case of the Kingston supply chlorination of the water has been recommended.

Studland village's supply is derived from surface water collected on neighbouring heathland areas. The water is sand filtered and gives consistently highly satisfactory results. The quantity of water available is very limited and shortage is experienced during dry summers.

Extension of Existing Water Supplies

There were no extensions of existing piped water supplies during the year.

Proposed New Water Supplies

Main Scheme

This scheme is for the supply of water from the Bladen Estates borehole at Briantspuddle, to all parts of the district not already served by a piped supply from a public water undertaking, with the exception of the parish of Lytchett Matravers which is proposed to be included in the Poole Borough statutory area of supply.

Test pumping at the Briantspuddle borehole gave evidence of a yield of water considered adequate for the area to be supplied under the scheme.

Negotiations for acquiring this source were continued by the Council and, at the end of the year under review, the Ministry of Health had agreed to the conditions for its purchase.

Temporary Schemes

These schemes are for the supply of water to areas from local sources until the water becomes available from the main Briantspuddle source, and are planned so that the greater part of the installations and the distributing mains can be used when the main scheme is developed.

Bloxworth. The scheme for the supply of water to the village of Bloxworth was agreed to in principle by the Ministry of Health and sanction was given to bore for water close to the existing Bloxworth Estate source.

Church Knowle. The Ministry of Health approved the final scheme for the Church Knowle supply from Chalmer's Well. A tender to carry out the work - which is due to start on 1st April 1950 - was accepted by the Council.

Stoborough. The Ministry of Health approved the scheme for the supply of water to Stoborough, Ridge and Arne, from a bulk supply taken from the Wareham Borough Council's mains. Tenders were invited for carrying out the scheme and work was to commence early in 1950.

In the Stoborough village area 72 houses can be served by the new supply and 56 intend to be connected. In the Ridge and Arne area 38 out of a total of 58 houses which can be served with the new supply, intend to be connected.

Studland. Proposals were considered for taking water in bulk from the Swanage Urban District Council's supply to Studland Village area, which at present has an inadequate supply. At the end of the year under review negotiations with the Swanage Urban District Council were in progress.

Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies.

The classification adopted in the following tables is based on the suggestions for Classification of Waters contained in the Ministry of Health Report No. 71, on the Bacteriological Examination of water supplies.

Public Supplies.

Water Undertaking	Sample taken from	No. of Samples	Remarks
Poole Corporation	Tap-Bryn Rd, Sandford	1	Highly satisfactory
Poole Corporation	Tap, Wareham Rd, Upton	1	" "
War Department, Bovington	Tap, Cologne Rd, Bovington.	1	" "
Lulworth Castle Estate	Spring	2 (untreated)	" "
	"	1 (untreated)	Satisfactory
	"	3 (untreated)	Suspicious
	"	2	Unsatisfactory
	Tap, West Lulworth	1	Highly satisfactory

Village Piped Supplies - Privately Owned

Village	Sample taken from	No. of samples	Results
Studland	Household tap	4	Highly satisfactory
	Household tap	1	satisfactory
Winfrith	Household tap	1	Unsatisfactory
	Standpipe	1	satisfactory
Chaldon Herring	Pump House	1	Highly satisfactory
Briantspuddle	Borehole	2	Highly satisfactory
	Tap Sitterton, Bere Regis	1	" "

Individual Wells and Springs

Parish	Number of Samples	Highly Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory
Arne	4	3	-	-	1
Bere Regis	4	3	1	-	-
Church Knowle	2	1	-	-	1
Corfe Castle	2	1	1	-	-
East Lulworth	1	1	-	-	-
East Stoke	6	-	-	2	4
Langton Matravers	4	1	1	1	1
Lytchett Matravers	12	4	2	2	4
Lytchett Minster	4	1	-	2	1
Morden	11	4	3	-	4
Studland	6	-	2	1	3
Wareham St. Martin	2	-	1	1	-
Winfrith	2	-	-	1	1
Worth Matravers	4	1	-	2	1
Totals	64	20	11	12	21

Sewerage and Drainage

Particulars of the sewerage systems in the district are given on page 11.

Most of the older cottages and houses in the district have pail closets the contents of which are disposed of by digging into the gardens, whilst the newer houses are invariably provided with water closets and cesspools. Difficulty is experienced in all villages in the district in properly disposing of wastes from water closets, sinks and baths, and much of the drainage finds its way to convenient ditches or streams.

The need for proper sewerage systems in the villages has become more apparent with the development of the Council's housing programme, which has necessitated the installation of a number of small sewage disposal systems to deal with the sewage from Council houses. These small systems are difficult to supervise and maintain in efficient working order, and are liable to give rise to complaints of unpleasant smells and fly nuisance.

This need for sewerage systems in the villages will become even more pressing when the Council's scheme for improved water supply for the district materialises.

Cesspool Emptying.

Complaints of overflowing cesspools were, as in past years, frequent, particularly in the Upton, Wool and Studland areas. Difficulty is experienced by householders in making arrangements for the emptying of cesspools. During the year the Council re-considered a scheme for instituting a regular cesspool emptying service in the district and agreed in principle to the provision of the service for the whole of the district.

Sewerage Systems under Construction

Langton Matravers

Work on the construction of the Sewerage System for this village was nearing completion at the end of the year. The sewage from this system will be discharged directly into the Swanage Urban District Council's sewer and treatment and disposal works will be unnecessary.

Bestwall

The 6 inch sewer with ejector station into the existing Bestwall sewer was completed, but no house connections had been made to the sewer by the end of the year.

Proposed Sewerage Schemes

Corfe Castle

The methods of disposal of sewage from properties in this village, which for many years has had a good piped water supply from the Swanage Urban District Council's water undertaking, are very unsatisfactory. The Council recognised the need for a main sewerage system and in 1947 a Ministry of Health enquiry was held into the Council's proposed sewerage scheme for the village. As a result of objections to the proposed site of the disposal works, the Ministry's approval was deferred until a suitable alternative site was found.

It is unfortunate that no progress has been made by the Council in reaching a decision as to the siting of the proposed disposal works.

Upton & Lytchett Minster

Agreement was reached with Poole Corporation for the preparation of a combined scheme which would include the sewerage of this area, and for a disposal works on Turpin Moor.

Wool

Preliminary plans have been prepared for the sewerage of this village. The Council's negotiations for the purchase of the Bovington Camp sewerage works were still proceeding at the end of the year.

Rivers and Streams Pollution

No serious pollution of rivers and streams by sewage effluents was reported during the year.

Sewerage Systems

1. Parish	2. Locality	3. No. of houses connected to sewer	4. No. of Houses within 100 ft. which could be connected to sewer	5. Total Houses in Parish	6. Percentage of Houses in Col. 4 connected to sewer	7. Percentage of Houses in Col. 5 connected to sewer
West Lulworth	Lulworth Cove	96	108	201	89%	48%
Wareham St. Martin	Sandford Bestwall	88 24	117 24	258	75% 100%	43%

Remarks

The West Lulworth sewage, which is untreated, is discharged into the sea in the deep water to the West of Lulworth Cove.

Sandford sewage is treated by sedimentation, sludge drying and effluent filtration. The effluent is discharged into the River Fiddle.

Bestwall sewage is discharged untreated into the adjoining Wareham Borough sewer.

Seventeen new connections were made to the West Lulworth sewerage system and twentyfour to the Sandford sewerage system during the year. No connections had been made by the end of the year to the extension of the Bestwall sewerage system.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREASummary of Sanitary Inspector's Work for Year 1949
Total Number of Inspections and VisitsCOMPLAINTS AND NUISANCES

Investigated	...	...	...	...	125
Visits	...	...	...	...	171

HOUSINGHousing Acts

Inspected for housing defects	...	...	...	120
Visits for such purpose	...	...	...	152
Houses recorded	...	...	...	72
Houses requiring repair	...	...	...	33
Houses overcrowded	...	...	...	7
Re-visits	...	...	...	32

Public Health Acts

Houses inspected	...	...	...	45
Houses requiring repair	...	...	...	29
Visits	...	...	...	57

Drainage

Inspections	...	...	...	167
Drains reconstructed, repaired, etc.	...	...	...	29
Drains tested	...	...	...	117
Cesspool drainage connected to sewer	...	...	...	26
Cesspools inspected	...	...	...	51
Effluents sampled	...	...	...	-

Water Supply

Visits	...	...	...	90
Water samples	...	...	...	66

REGISTERED AND OTHER PREMISES

Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	34
Schools	...	...	...	7
Public premises, cinemas, lavatories, etc.	...	...	...	4
Piggories and stables, etc.	...	...	...	5
Factories and workshops	...	...	...	46

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Visits	...	...	...	46
Disinfections carried out	...	...	...	36

Verminous premises

Inspections	...	...	...	13
Disinfections carried out	...	...	...	4

FOOD - Visits

Food premises, stores, shops, stalls, etc.	...	...	...	...	118
Slaughter houses	...	...	...	...	229
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	28
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	77
Dairies and milk shops	...	...	...	...	18

Food Sampling - visits

Milk	1
Ice Cream	10

Food Condemned

Visits of inspection	33
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DISEASE OF ANIMALS

Visits	1
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NOTICES

Informal notices issued	144
Informal notices - nuisances abated	137
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	8
Statutory notices abated	...	...	...	...	10
Statutory notices outstanding 31.12.49	...	...	...	...	-
Informal notices outstanding 31.12.49	...	...	...	...	7

Abatement of Nuisances

1. Number of informal notices served	...	...	...	56
2. Number of statutory notices served	...	...	...	-
3. Number of nuisances abated under:-				
(a) Informal notices	...	...	...	52
(b) Statutory notices	...	...	...	-
4. Number of informal notices outstanding 31.12.49	...	...	...	4
5. Number of statutory notices outstanding 31.12.49	...	...	...	-

Verminous Premises

A number of minor infestations with fleas were dealt with during the year. No infestations with bed bugs were reported.

Rodent Control

The Council's refuse tips and sewerage systems were systematically treated during the course of the year. All complaints of rats and mice infestation were investigated and treatment, where necessary, was carried out. In addition food premises were treated for cockroach infestation.

The work is carried out by the Rodent Operator, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. The Operator is employed by the South East Dorset Joint Rodent Control Committee. The area covered in addition to the Wareham & Purbeck Rural District Council includes Swanage Urban District and the Wareham Borough.

There are 11 contracts with business premises for rodent control and 11 for cockroach control for the whole area.

Summary.

	RODENTS				COCKROACHES, ETC.		
	Sewers	Refuse tip	Private Dwelling Houses	Trade Premises	Bake-houses	Restaurant Kitchens	Private houses
Visits	2	3	150	48	6		2
Treatments	1	2	-	-	1		-

RODENT CONTROL (continued)Refuse Tips - Wareham Rural District

The refuse tips have been treated and are in a satisfactory condition.

Refuse Collection and Salvage.

Collections of refuse are made at fortnightly intervals from all parts of the Rural District with the exception of isolated buildings which are not near the normal collecting routes. At the end of 1948 it was estimated that 3,600 bins were cleared every fortnight; during the year the service was extended to approximately another 400 properties.

Applications for collection of refuse are received frequently but have to be refused as the existing service is already overburdened. The possibility of extending the service will have to be considered shortly.

The prices to be obtained for salvage dropped by half, and it is doubtful whether it will be economical to continue the separate collection and baling of salvage in future.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODMilk Supply

The following regulations came into force on 1st October, 1949. The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949: the Milk Special Designations (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949: and the Milk Special Designations (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949. The principal changes are:-

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 the Minister of Agriculture becomes responsible for the Registration of the dairy farms and persons carrying on the trade of dairy farmer, and for the enforcement of the regulations at dairy farms, except in so far as they relate to diseases communicable to man, which are the responsibility of the Local Authority.

Under the Milk Special Designations (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949 in future the responsibility for the granting of Dealers' - that is Pasteurisers' and Sterilisers' licences, is transferred from the Local Authority to the Food and Drugs Authority, who are responsible for the execution and enforcement of the Milk Designations Act. Local Authorities remain responsible for the granting of other dealers' licences and supplementary licences.

Under the Milk Special Designations (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, the designations classed are accredited and tuberculin tested. The use of the designation 'accredited' is now limited to a period of five years from the commencement of those regulations, that is, until 1st. October, 1954. Producers' licences are to be granted by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. Local Authorities remain responsible for the granting of dealers' and supplementary licences under those regulations.

No. of dairy farms on register at 30th September, 1949	...	297
" " milk distributors on register at 31st December, 1949	...	8
" " dairy premises on register at 31st December, 1949	...	7
Visits made to dairy farms and dairies during the year	...	95
No. of notices served on owners in respect of defects	...	23
" " " complied with	...	23

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations

The following licences were in force at the end of the year:-

No. of pasteurising establishments	...	2
" " bottling licences (tuberculin tested)	...	5
" " (pasteurised)	...	2
" " supplementary licences to sell:-		
tuberculin tested	...	1
pasteurised	...	2

Pasteurised Milk

Regular visits of inspection were made to the pasteurising and bottling establishments in the district during the year.

Samples of pasteurised milk are taken by the Officers of the Sampling Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1936. Copies of the reports on the samples taken are sent to the District Medical Officer of Health.

No. of samples of pasteurised milk taken	...	50
" " " which passed the phosphatase test	...	50
" " " " failed to pass the phosphatase test	...	-
" " " " passed the methylene blue test	...	50
" " " " failed to pass the methylene blue test	...	-

It is estimated that more than 50% of the milk consumed in the district is either pasteurised or tuberculin tested.

Meat and Food Inspection

Slaughtering of animals continued throughout the year at the Government controlled slaughterhouse at Upton. The following table gives particulars of the carcasses inspected at the Upton slaughterhouse.

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption

		Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	...	951	219	5832	10136	-
Number inspected	...	951	219	5832	10136	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	-	-	2	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	291	129	14	346	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease, other than tuberculosis	...	30.6	58.9	0.27	3.4	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	15	6	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	105	67	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	...	12.5	33.3	-	-	-

Tons. Cwt. Qtrs. Lbs.

Total weight of meat condemned during the year at Upton slaughterhouse

11 3 3 23

Total weight of meat condemned during the year at Butchers' shops

267 lbs. of beef.
433 lbs. one sow's
carcase.

Other Food Condemned

Bacon	7½ lbs.	Cheese	4½ lbs.
Bun flour	36 "	Self-raising flour	72 "
Dried Peaches	25 "	Marmalade	3 jars
Prunes	30 "	Tins of veal and pork	6
Butter	66 "	" " pilchards	7
Potatoes 1 ton 2 cwt.	- "	" " spaghetti	11
Tins of corned beef	3	" " evaporated milk	6
Tins of peas	26	" " baked beans	3
Tins of grape fruit	3	" " scotch broth	2
Tins of veal loaf	6	" " vegetables	41
Tins of beef	3	" " carrots	2
Tins of meat and vegetables	3	" " ox tongue	3

Knackers' Yard

There is one licenced Knackers' Yard in the district.

Watercress

Inspections of the watercress beds at Bere Regis, Wool and Waddock Cross, were made during the year. Conditions at the cress beds were found to be satisfactory.

Ice Cream

There were 10 now registrations under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, of premises for the sale of ice cream.

The total number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream at the end of 1949 was 20.

Seven samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for the Methylene Blue Reduction test, giving the following results:-

Source	No. of Samples	Provisional Grade
EB/C/CC	1	3
EB/C/CC	1	4
JBE/O/W	1	3
"	1	4
PG/H/W	1	3
CG/C/S	1	2
MB/O/S	1	2

The standards adopted for grading are those suggested in the report (1947) of the sub committee appointed by the Medical Research Council to enquire into tests for the bacteriological grading of ice cream.

Preserved Food

Two premises were registered by the Council, under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for use in the preparation or manufacture of preserved food. The total number of premises registered for use in the preparation or manufacture of preserved food at the end of the year was 11.

H O U S I N G

A total of 1042 houses had been surveyed by the end of 1949, and results of this survey gives an indication of the housing conditions generally in the Rural District.

It was found that approximately 54% of the houses were fit for human habitation or had minor defects only; 9% required structural alteration and repairs; 12% required reconditioning and 24% were found to require demolition.

It would appear from the results, so far, of the Housing Survey that the number of houses in the district which require demolition and replacement is likely to be in the region of seven hundred.

Although 96 new houses were built in the district during the year the total number of applicants on the waiting list for Council houses has increased by 126, to 657 by the end of the year. Demolition orders were made in respect of three houses and undertakings accepted not to use for human habitation until rendered fit in respect of two houses, during the year. Two houses were demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.

At the present rate of building it seems that some considerable time must elapse before many of the present unfit houses can be demolished, or before any appreciable improvement in housing conditions will be noticeable in the district.

Progress has been made in finding a solution for the unsatisfactory housing and sanitary conditions in the area known as Tin Town, adjoining Bovington Camp, which has caused the Council and local Military Authorities much concern for many years. During the year the Ministry of Health approved the purchase, by the Council, of a site for 44 houses which will be used to re-house persons displaced from unfit dwellings in Tin Town and civilian workers displaced from War Department property.

Houses requisitioned by the Local Authority

1. Number of houses held under requisition at 31.12.49	40
2. Number of inadequately housed families accommodated therein	... 40
3. Number of ex War Department huts on camp sites, etc. used by Local Authority for housing purposes	... 30

Control of Moveable Dwellings.

The Council approved the issue, under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, of 7 licences to station individual moveable dwellings, and of 1 licence for a site for moveable dwellings.

Licences in force at the end of 1949:-

1. Sites for moveable dwellings	... 15
2. To station individual moveable dwellings	40

Conditions at licenced caravan and camping sites were satisfactory, and it was not found necessary to take formal action for the abatement of any nuisances on the sites during the year.

Housing Inspection

1.	Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year.			
1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	205
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	249
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head(1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	63
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	70
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation			24
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation			62
2..	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.			
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers			58
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year.			
	(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
	1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	...	-
	2.	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-		
		(a) By owners	...	-
		(b) By Local Authorities in default of owners	...	-
	(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.		
	1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	10
	2.	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-		
		(a) By owners	...	10
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	-
	(c)	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
	1.	(a) Demolition orders were made	...	3
		(b) Undertakings not to use for human habitation until rendered fit, accepted	...	2
	2.	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	2
	(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
	1.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	-
	2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	...	-

4.

New Houses.

Total number of new houses erected during 1949:-

Permanent	...	...	...	96
Pre-fabricated	...	...	...	-

Number erected during 1949 with state assistance:-

(a) By Local Authority :-

Permanent	68
Pre-fabricated	-

(b) By other Bodies or Persons	-
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Number erected during the year 1949 by private enterprise 28

Number of permanent houses owned by Local Authority ... 348

Approximate number of working class houses in district ... 3781

Housing Survey Summary

			<u>During 1949</u>	<u>Total at end of 1949</u>
Number of houses inspected and recorded	....		40	1042
1. Number of houses fit for human habitation or with minor defects only	... ..		9	563
2. Number of houses requiring structural alteration or repairs	... ..		3	92
3. Number of houses requiring reconditioning	...		4	123
4. Number of houses requiring demolition and replacement	... ..		24	264

LOCAL AUTHORITY'S HOUSING PROGRAMME

Parish	Houses Completed				In Course of Construction 31.12.1949	Houses Proposed at 31.12.49	Total Permanent Houses Owned at 31.12.49
	1946	1947	1948	1949			
Affpuddle	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
Arne	-	12	2	-	-	20	14
Bere Regis	4	-	10	6	8	-	40
Bloxworth	-	-	-	-	-	8	-
Chaldon Herring	-	8	-	-	-	-	8
Church Knowle	-	-	6	-	-	4	6
Coombe Keynes	-	-	-	-	6	-	-
Corfe Castle	-	10	2	16	-	-	40
East Holme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
East Lulworth	-	-	-	2	4	6	2
East Stoke	-	-	-	-	-	10	-
Kimmeridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Langton Matravers	-	-	20	-	-	10	32
Lytchett Matravers	-	-	6	8	-	6	26
Lytchett Minster	-	(6)	20	8	14	16	34 (6)
Morden	-	-	10	-	8	-	14
Moreton	-	-	-	-	-	12	-
Steeple	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
Studland	-	8	10	6	-	-	42
Tonerspuddle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tynham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wareham St. Martin	-	(50)	-	-	-	10	(50)
West Lulworth	-	-	-	4	8	-	4
Winfrith	-	-	12	-	-	-	18
Wool	-	-	18	18	38	56	68
Worth Matravers	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
Totals ...	4	38 (56)	116	68	90	170	348 (56)

Figures in brackets () indicate temporary prefabricated bungalows.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There was no outbreak of serious infectious disease in the district during the year. Visits of enquiry are made and, where necessary, action taken for the prevention of spread of infection, including spread by persons engaged in handling food.

Measles

The number of cases of measles notified (208) was almost double that of the preceding year. The disease was of a mild nature and no deaths were recorded.

Whooping Cough

The number of cases of whooping cough notified was almost half that notified in 1948. The disease showed no undue severity and there were no deaths from this disease.

Scarlet Fever

The number of Scarlet Fever cases (25) was just over double the number for 1949. The disease was very mild and there were no deaths.

Acute Poliomyelitis

No cases were notified in the district during the year.

Food Poisoning

Two cases of food poisoning were notified during the month of August. Both cases were already suffering from symptoms when they arrived in the district. The nature and source of the infections were not discovered as no bacteriological investigations had been carried out, as the patients had recovered and left before the notifications were received.

One case of food poisoning due to B. Typhi Murium was notified during the month of September. Investigations failed to discover the source of the infection.

Disease	1st. Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd. Qtr.	4th. Qtr.	Total	Cases admitted to I.D. Hosp.	Deaths
Whooping Cough	53	12	5	4	74	-	-
Measles	10	110	82	6	208	1	-
Pneumonia	14	4	-	3	21	-	7
Scarlet Fever	1	11	10	7	29	13	-
Erysipelas	-	3	3	-	6	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	3	-	3	-	-

Notification Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population

Infectious Disease	England and Wales	Wareham and Furbeck Rural District
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.00
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0.02	0.06
Scarlet Fever	1.63	1.78
Whooping Cough	2.39	4.45
Diphtheria	0.04	0.00
Erysipelas	0.19	0.36
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Measles	8.95	12.77
Pneumonia	0.80	1.29
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.13	0.00
Acute Polio-encephalitis	0.01	0.00
Food Poisoning	0.14	0.18

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1949

	Age Groups											Age unknown
	All ages	0-1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	
Scarlet fever	29	-	5	5	17	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough	74	4	19	17	29	1	2	-	-	-	-	2
Measles	208	7	39	31	109	6	1	2	2	1	-	10
Pneumonia	21	1	1	-	4	1	1	-	5	2	4	2
Erysipelas	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1
Cerebro-spinal fever	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	23.
Food poisoning	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-

Scabies and Verminous Conditions

One case of scabies and twenty cases of verminous conditions of the scalp in children were reported during the year. The incidence of these conditions in the district has shown a gradual decline since the war years.

Tuberculosis

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths during 1949:-

Age Periods		New cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...				1				
1	...								
5	...			1					
10	...		1						
15	...	1	1			1			
20	...		1						
25	...	2				1			
35	...	1					1		
45	...				1	1			
55	...		1			3			
65 & upwards	...		1						
Age unknown	...								
Totals	...	4	4	1	2	6	1	-	-

Cases of tuberculosis remaining on the Register of Notifications on 31st December, 1949:-

Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total Cases
Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
27	29	56	8	6	14	70

Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination against Smallpox

The following figures for Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination against Smallpox have been kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Immunisations during the Year 1949					
0 - 4 yrs		5 - 14 yrs.		Totals	
P	R	P	R	P	R
313	1	13	210	326	211

P: Primary Immunisation. R: Re-inforcing doses.

	0 - 4 yrs.	5 - 14 yrs.	Total
Number of children who had completed a primary course of Diphtheria Immunisation at any time before 31st December, 1949.	1078	2440	3518
Percentage of Child Population considered Immunised at 31st December, 1949.	73%	100%	

Vaccinations against Smallpox

Records of Vaccinations received during the year ended 31st December, 1949.

	1 - 4 yrs.		5 - 14 yrs.		15 yrs and over		Totals	
	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R
Under 1 year	70	6	8	4	7	23	181	33

P: Primary Vaccination. R: Re-vaccination.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	30	23	2	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities ...	48	8	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	15	15	-	-
Total ...	93	46	2	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act(not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-

OUTWORK.(SECTIONS 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	SECTION 110			SECTION 111		
	No. of Out-workers in August List reqd. by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel:						
Making etc.	69	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and washing	-	-	-	-	-	-

